
Birds & Worms News

Volume 9 Issue 1

April 2005



Board of Directors for 2005

What's Up

Porch Roof Project – April Saturdays

General Membership Meeting and Dinner – April 22

Spring Work Party – April 23

Start of Racing Season – May 8

Launch Breakfast – May 15

Since the Last Newsletter

Spring is happening! The folks that showed up for the first porch work party on 4/2 watched the last of the Bay ice disappear.

Only a few days earlier Norma and I had painted our Lightning haulout by standing on the stuff (Yes, it was sort of soft in places.). Except for the snow forecast in the next few days, we might be putting winter behind us. Let's go back a few months to see what's been going on.

At the General Membership Meeting of January 28, a new budget was approved with modest increases in dues that you have no doubt paid by now. Right? Prior to the meeting the Snipes put on a wonderful Lasagna potluck dinner.





As in years past, the ice fishing community started to tie up our parking lot but was finally defeated by Rear Commodore Andy Smith. He partially closed the entrance gate that has kept the lot clear for Club activities during the last few months. The new gutters on the west side of the clubhouse appear to eliminate the water and ice problems of years past. Thanks to Eric Schoenhardt for arranging for their installation. Ed Bell and the Long Range Planning Committee have been considering major changes to the existing docks with an aim toward wave protection and accommodating more boats. See article elsewhere in this newsletter. A special committee has been hard at work considering updates to the NYC Constitution and Bylaws.

Meet the New Board

The last newsletter had a list of the members of the 2005 Board. This newsletter we feature their picture on the front page. Get to know them and don't be bashful about offering suggestions or volunteering to help them out.

Commodore's Corner

Eva Smith

I hope you have all recovered from our long winter and are looking forward to the new season at Newport. It looks to be an exciting season with many new developments on many fronts.

The Board of Directors asked a committee to look at the Constitution and Bylaws of the Club. It had been quite a while since these documents were visited, and we felt it was time to

take a look. You should have received a copy of the proposed changes and updates to look over before the April 22nd General Membership Meeting. One of the major proposed changes includes a re-vamping of the composition of the Board of Directors and terms of office. We feel it makes no sense to have approximately 1/3 of our members serving on the board. Increasing the terms of office to two years and staggering elections will also help this situation. There are also changes proposed in the definition of associate members, which clarify that category of membership by creating three categories of associate membership. Proposed changes involving the general fund and the responsibilities of the Finance Committee concerning short-term capital project financial planning and the responsibilities for planning for longer-term capital projects will allow the Club to more efficiently budget its funds.

Some of the other changes proposed are to make things more "politically correct" or to clarify small issues. The proposal to delete the section on Race Committee (2.5.4) is because this standing committee no longer exists.

Please look over the mailings you received for these Constitution and Bylaws changes and clarifications and be sure to vote, either by proxy or in person, at the April 22nd General Membership Meeting. Thanks to the committee: Rick Gammons, Landy Atkinson, Ted Horvath, Peter Allen, and Jillian Stokes for doing such a thorough job in such a timely fashion.

On other fronts: The Long-Range Planning Committee has been following up on its report at the last General Membership Meeting on wave abatement and the possible expansion of dock space. This committee has been working hard to pursue these issues, meeting with the several agencies and authorities that need to be involved. Check out Ed

Bell's article in this issue, and keep watching for updates. The possibilities are exciting.

By the time this is published, the new roof for the porch will be under construction. Once again the membership of our Club has rallied to take on a project most organizations would "hire out". Thanks to all who are helping, under the guidance of Eric Schoenhardt, and to those who have helped provide lunch for the workers.

Stay tuned. There's a lot happening and you'll want to be a part of it all. See you at the **General Membership Meeting on the 22nd!**

From the Rear Commodore

Andy Smith

The 1/2 ton hoist is rebuilt and back from the factory. They found several items that needed service. These were required for normal operation and safety reasons. They replaced the brake disks, motor bearings, liftwheel bearings, lower hook thrust bearing, and the push button station. It is all ready to be hung at the spring work party. The repairs cost \$750, and include a full year warranty. Please be kind to it. A new half-ton hoist would cost \$2,139.40. Thanks go to Phil Morris for dropping it off in Buffalo and John Boettcher for picking it up. (It is not light.)

One fine day this winter I borrowed an ultrasonic tester and did some spot measuring of the thickness of the 32-year-old seawall across the front of the club. This tester sends a sound wave into the metal, and measures the time for the echo to reflect back. Knowing the speed of sound in steel, it calculates the thickness. I tried to measure the same areas that I measured in 1999, but the bay level was two feet higher than before. I was able to determine that the sheet pile thickness about 4 feet down from the top is about half of the nominal thickness as originally

installed. When it was measured previously there were some thinner areas at the 6-foot level. One might expect to see a few small web holes in a few years that might require excavating behind, and placing some concrete patches. Hopefully this task will be many years away. See additional article by Norm Dahl elsewhere in this newsletter – ed.

The April 23rd spring work party is coming. Save the date. We will have many of the normal springtime projects to complete to get ready for sailing and get the grounds back in shape. Details will follow at the GMM on 4/22.

Vice Commodore News

Lynn Bluett

By the time this newsletter is distributed we should be well into replacing the porch roof. Eric Schoenhardt is leading this phase of the porch renovation. Every Saturday in April has been scheduled for the project. Hopefully, we won't need them all. We have a lot of enthusiastic volunteers to work on the porch roof and provide lunches for the workers. Thanks to everyone. This is a great example of "Many hands make light work."

Please keep April 23rd open on your calendar for the spring work party. Between Andy Smith and me there will be all kinds of jobs to do. Work will begin at 9:00 am. Coffee and donuts will be available at the start of the day. There will be a sign-up sheet sent via email and I will also have a copy of it at the General Membership Meeting on Friday, April 22nd .

When you come down to the Club for the General Membership Meeting or the work party, please be sure to check out the new gutters and downspouts. Eric Schoenhardt got us a very good price on having them installed. We haven't had any water

problems due to overflowing gutters since they were installed.

Thanks to everyone that booked the club this winter. It was cleaned up after each event and I didn't have to keep a single cleaning deposit.

Race Chairman Report

Eric Schoenhardt

Most of the race committee employees of last year have signed up for this year. This means we will have mostly experienced personnel. I am also in the process of hiring a coordinator who will oversee the entire operation.

The Club schedule has been worked out with the board and the fleet captains. It is appended to this newsletter.

Long Range Planning Committee Report

Ed Bell

The deliberations of the committee have been captured in the appended drawing done by Dan Pope with help from Eric Schoenhardt. This plan has been informally reviewed with members of the towns surrounding the bay and representatives from the DEC. The response was generally favorable with the only concern being that anything the club does must be in compliance with the Irondequoit Bay Harbor Management Plan. Copies of the complete IBHMP are available at the clubhouse (on the bookcase) and in the Members section of the NewportYC.org web site.



Copies of the plan summary are available in a folder below the bulletin board.

A more detailed report will be presented at the upcoming General Membership Meeting on April 22nd. Interested parties are also free to attend the next meeting of the committee at 7:30pm on the 21st. Contact Ed Bell for details.

Membership Committee Report

John Boettcher

Mary McCarthy is a new Cruising Fleet member voted in at the January meeting. She lives in Rochester and works as a loan officer for Nothnagle Home Securities Corp. and has an O'Day Mariner. She has owned other sailboats but got busy with her career. Mary missed sailing and was looking for a way of picking up the sport. She is interested in cruising and has never raced "at least not yet".

Over the winter, I have received membership inquiries from several parties. Some of these will turn into actual applications. I have been working closely with Howard Stickney who manages the slip/haulout assignments on the east and west docks. There is very little room left which increases the urgency of the dock considerations of the Long-Range Planning Committee.

Need NYC decals for your car? Get hold of me. I carry a supply most of the time.

Lightning Fleet News

Lori Foster

First, I need to say that I have been out of the NYC leadership loop for several years, but now as I take my role as the Lightning Fleet captain, I am realizing I have missed working with many thoughtful, committed, and energetic folks at NYC. Al McReynolds deserves a special salute for serving as Fleet Captain for many years (as has John Atkins). Al will continue in his

role as Thursday Night Sailing (TNS) race chair. Jan Crumb is the Lightning Fleet Vice-Captain. This newly created position allows for distribution of duties and decisions. A special double salute to Howard Stickney whose name is synonymous with score keeping and being the Lightning treasurer. (Howard will gladly accept your 2005 dues.).

We kick off this sailing season (and end it) with racing on Sundays through the spring and fall. The most important change is to a 1 p.m. start for all races on Sundays. This gives way to attending church, mowing the lawn or allowing the thermal to come in.

Thursday Night Sailing (TNS) will start earlier in the season and end later this year, and will overlap the Spring series by a few races. The Lightning Fleet invites the whole club to take part in this weekly event at whatever participation level you would like. Every boat is welcome as is every sailor. Beginning sailors and sailors new to our club will find TNS a good experience and our club very welcoming.

Not really into racing? No problem. There are two choices for TNS: at the start of the season there will be a 'step-by-step' racing seminar to learn about tactics before the start and the start sequence. (Watch for announcements). Also, you can volunteer to help on a chase boat, or offer to take spectators out on your boat to watch the evening races.

Members who work late or family members who prefer to stay on shore have also been important to the success of TNS. They set up for the after racing cookout, bring interesting dishes to pass (visit the web for the TNS cookbook), and make coming back to shore a joy. Look for sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for these volunteer positions.

Besides, what better place is there to be on a nice summer's evening

than with good sailing, good food and good friends?

The Lightnings have opted to host a one-day regatta on Saturday, August 13. We will still offer housing to those who wish to arrive Friday night. Contact Eva Smith if you can put up 3 racers. All Club members are invited to the awards ceremony and after racing cookout. It will follow the same structure as TNS – dishes to pass and 'buck-a-burger' grill.

The NYC Lightning Fleet continues to support the Central New York Lightning District races. There are 12 regattas scheduled this year. Check cnyLightnings.org for the full schedule.

Be a crew. Need a crew. Phil Lange is heading up the Lightning Crew Connection. He'll match crew to skippers, but needs, of course, more crew than skippers. If you, or someone you know is interested in crewing on a Lightning, then contact Phil. Requirements for new crew are: a willingness to learn, commitment to adventure, and enthusiasm for getting wet. Being agile helps, too. Requirements for skippers are: willingness to be patient, commitment to teaching and enthusiasm for making it fun. Being nice helps, too.

My best wishes for a safe sailing season, competitive racing and lots of fun doing both. See you on the water.

Snipe Fleet Report

Ted Horvath

The Snipes had a potluck luncheon at the club on March 13 with about 20 attendees, and it was another fun gathering (see report below). The racing schedule was discussed, and the agreement was to start racing on May 8. The Snipe Briody Regatta will be August 20 and 21. The next Snipe Pot Luck will be at the Horvath's on April 17.

March Pot Luck Report

Joanne Vaughn

The Snipes had their March potluck at the clubhouse. It was a beautiful sunny day. The bay was frozen over and ice fishermen were dotting the white expanse. Inside the clubhouse was bright and toasty warm. Snipers caught up on travels, good reads and good eats. Snipers made some high level decisions about sailing but mostly about whether or not to take seconds. Special thanks to the Horvath's, who stepped in to coordinate when the Courtsal's were stricken at the last minute with THE BUG.



Laser Fleet Report

Bob Shanebrook

The Fleet is hosting the dinner for the upcoming General Membership Meeting. The entrée will be pizza complemented by a potluck of salad and dessert. The Newport Laser Regatta is scheduled for June 11.

Cruising Fleet Report

Ed Bell

There will be a Fleet meeting at the Club on April 27th to work out the plan for the season. A forum on the basics of racing will be scheduled before the start of Thursday Night Sailing.

Launch Breakfast

Joanne Vaughn & John Boettcher

We've decided to have it a little later in the season this year to May 15. We will be featuring pancakes, eggs, bacon and all the usual. Cost is only \$2 but you have to let us know you are coming so we can plan the food (call John at 671-9639 with the number in your party). After stoking up, you can hit the racecourse or work on your boat. This would also be a great time for the Cruising Fleet members to help each other get their masts stepped and boats in the water. Save the date, May 15.

Long Live Our Seawall!

Norm Dahl

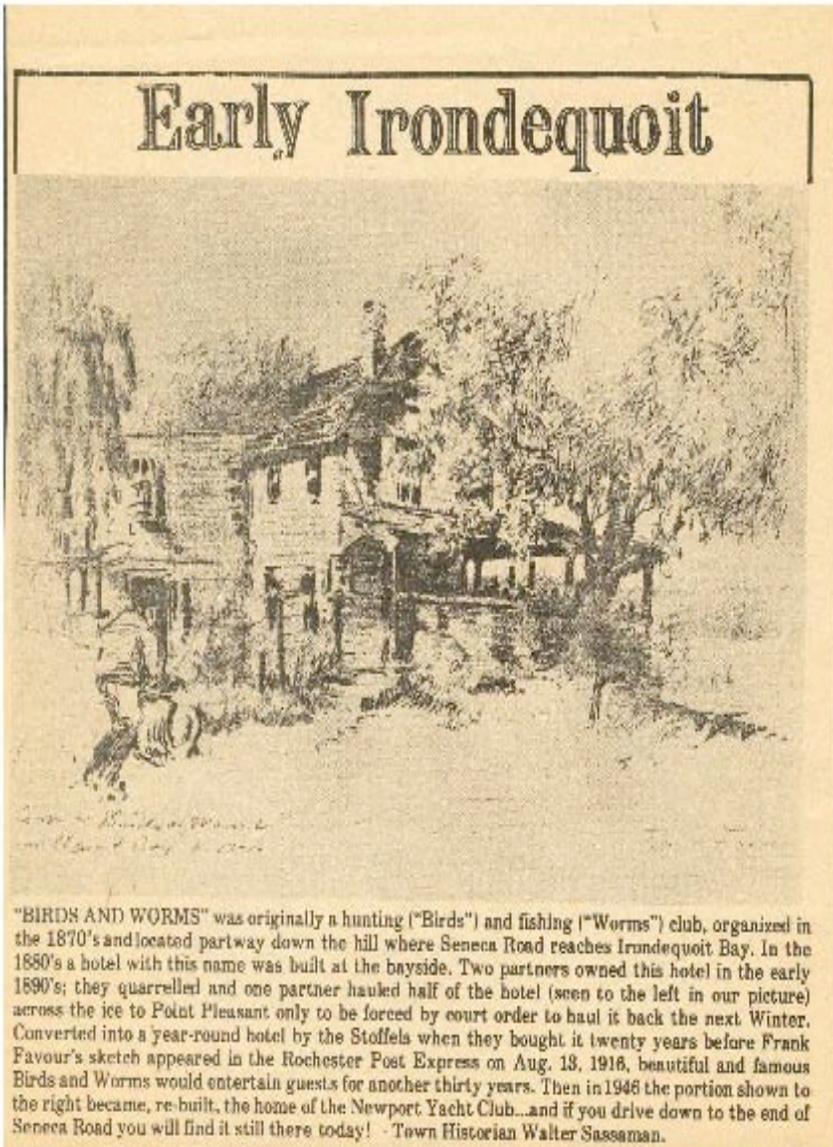
Based on Andy Smith's ultrasonic measurements in 1999 and 2005 and our experience with two freestanding pilings, the north section of our seawall should take 57 years to corrode through. It should fail by corrosion in 2030, 25 years from now. Don't get too confident, though. The south section corroded three times as fast, and only lasted 19 years. We should check the thickness every five or ten years.

The seawall can also fail by

tipping over into the water. Tiebacks are designed to prevent this. In 1997, the seawall had begun to tip at two locations where tiebacks had never been installed. The club installed three tiebacks and had the seawall cap welded to the piling, and this stopped the tipping. We should check the status of all our tiebacks and consider replacing any that have failed.

I have updated the seawall report from last year. The new one is titled The Newport Yacht Club Seawall: 1972 to 2005. It includes everything you ever wanted to know about the Newport seawall. See me if you want a copy. It can also be found in the Members section of the NewportYC.org web site.

Publication? IROND Vol. XLIV – No. 28 From Howard Stickney



John Ochs Memorial Flagpole

Peter Allen

John Ochs was very active in Newport Yacht Club's Lightning fleet. For many years he crewed for Doc Macintosh. I don't think he ever owned a Lightning himself, but many of the older members remember him. I saw several at his wake. You may send contributions for the John J. Ochs memorial flagpole to the Charlotte Lighthouse Historical Society c/o Charlotte Lighthouse, 70 Lighthouse Street, Rochester, NY 14612.

NYC History

Howard Stickney

I came across the sketch at the left in my files and wanted to share this with the membership

Newsletter Contributions

Landy Atkinson publishes and electronically distributes the Newsletter. John Boettcher is the editor. Next issue will be in June of 2005. Send contributions to J. Boettcher (johnwb1@bluefrog.com)

2005 Newport Yacht Club Race Schedule (draft 4-4-05)

	DATE	TIME		Lightnings	Snipes	Lasers	Handicap	
1	8-May	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
2	15-May	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
3	22-May	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
4	29-May	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
5	30-May	1:00 PM	Mon	X	X	X	X	CLUB HANDICAP RACE
6	2-Jun	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
7	5-Jun	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
8	9-Jun	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
9	11-Jun	10:00AM	Sat			X		LASER REGATTA
10	12-Jun	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
11	16-Jun	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
12	19-Jun	1:00 PM	Sun		X			
13	23-Jun	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
14	26-Jun	1:00 PM	Sun		X			
15	30-Jun	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
16	3-Jul	1:00 PM	Sun		X			
17	4-Jul	1:00 PM	Mon	X	X	X	X	CLUB HANDICAP RACE
18	7-Jul	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
19	10-Jul	1:00 PM	Sun		X			
20	14-Jul	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
21	17-Jul	1:00 PM	Sun		X			
22	21-Jul	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
23	24-Jul	1:00 PM	Sun		X			
24	28-Jul	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
25	31-Jul	1:00 PM	Sun		X			
26	4-Aug	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
27	7-Aug	1:00 PM	Sun		X			
28	11-Aug	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
29	13-Aug	10:00AM	Sat	X				LIGHTNING REGATTA
30	14-Aug	1:00 PM	Sun		X			
31	18-Aug	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
32	20-Aug	10:00AM	Sat		X			SNIPE REGATTA
33	21-Aug	10:00AM	Sun		X			SNIPE REGATTA
34	25-Aug	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	
35	28-Aug	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
36	4-Sep	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
37	5-Sep	2:00 PM	Mon	X	X	X	X	BROWN JUG (No Race Committee)
38	11-Sep	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
39	18-Sep	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
40	25-Sep	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
41	2-Oct	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
42	9-Oct	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
43	16-Oct	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			

Newport Yacht Club Calendar 2005

Draft 4-5-05

DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCAL EVENTS
02-Apr-04	Sat	9:00 AM	Porch Work Party (PWP)
04-Apr-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting
09-Apr-05	Sat	9:00 AM	Porch Work Party (PWP)
16-Apr-05	Sat	9:00 AM	Porch Work Party (PWP)
22-Apr-05	Fri	7:30PM	General Membership
23-Apr-05	Sat	9:00 AM	(PWP)&Spring Work Party
02-May-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting
08-May-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
15-Mar-05	Sun	10:00 AM	Launch Day Breakfast
15-May-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
22-May-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
29-May-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
30-May-05	Mon	1:00 PM	FLEET & HCP RACING
02-Jun-05	Thurs	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
05-Jun-05	Sun	11:00 AM	FLEET RACING
06-Jun-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting
09-Jun-05	Thu	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
11-Jun-05	Sat	10:00 AM	Laser Regatta(LA)
12-Jun-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
16-Jun-05	Thu	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
19-Jun-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
23-Jun-05	Thu	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
26-Jun-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
30-Jun-05	Thu	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
03-Jul-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
04-Jul-05	Mon	1:00 PM	FLEET & HCP RACING
07-Jul-05	Thu	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
10-Jul-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
11-Jul-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting
14-Jul-05	Thu	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
17-Jul-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
21-Jul-05	Thu	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
22-Jul-05	Fri	6:00 PM	Dinner ,GMM, 7:30
23-Jul-05	Sat	9:00 AM	Summer Work Party
24-Jul-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
28-Jul-05	Thur	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
31-Jul-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
01-Aug-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting
04-Aug-05	Thu	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
07-Aug-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
11-Aug-05	Thu	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
13-Aug-05	Sat	10:00 AM	Lightning Regatta
14-Aug-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
18-Aug-05	Thu	5:20 PM	THUR. RACING
20-Aug-05	Sat	10:00 AM	Briody Regatta (SN)
21-Aug-05	Sun	10:00 AM	Briody Regatta (SN)
25-Aug-05	Sun	1:00 PM	THUR. RACING
28-Aug-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
04-Sep-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
05-Sep-05	Mon	1:00 PM	Brown Jug @ RCC
11-Sep-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
12-Sep-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting
18-Sep-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
25-Sep-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
02-Oct-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
03-Oct-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting
09-Oct-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
16-Oct-05	Sun	1:00 PM	FLEET RACING
21-Oct-05	Fri	6:00 PM	Dinner ,GMM, 7:30
22-Oct-05	Sat	9:00 AM	Fall Work Party
31-Oct-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting
05-Nov-05	Sat	6:30 PM	Cups & Flags Banquet
05-Dec-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting
09-Jan-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting
06-Feb-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting
06-Mar-05	Mon	7:30 PM	Board Meeting

Work Parties



Board Meetings



Genl Membership Event



Special all fleet racing



Thursday Night racing



Regattas



